

1952

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

Watertown, N.Y.  
January 15th, 1953.

To:

Honorable Thomas J. Curran,  
Secretary of State, Albany, N. Y.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of the County of Jefferson.

In conformity with the provisions of Section 34 of the New York State Election Law, the Jefferson County Board of Elections, herewith submits its report for the year 1952, and as part of same as required by law, will be found statements showing the number of registered voters, male and female, the number of voters enrolled in each political party, the vote cast in the Official Spring and Fall Primaries and the General Election.

		ENROLLMENT - 1952						
Watertown	6455	Rep	3058	Dem	20	Liberal	11	American Labor
Towns	9906		4161		25		8	
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County	16361		7219		45		19	

SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION, APRIL 22nd, 1952.

Each year in which a President of the United States is to be elected an additional Spring Primary Election is held.

Three parties participated in this election; Republican, Democrat and Liberal Parties. No American Labor votes were cast.

The following party positions were elected:

Two District Delegates and Two Alternate District Delegates to the National Convention.

Two Members of State Committee, a male and a female by the Republican and Democratic Parties

Five Members of State Committee Liberal Party

Two Members of County Committee by the Democrat and Liberal Parties. - in 94 election district, Democratic party and in five district of the Liberal Party.

For the Spring Primary 143 petitions were filed in this office. All petitions were acknowledged by postal cards.

The Spring Primary vote was as follows:

Watertown	537	Rep	210	Dem	2 Liberal
Towns	991		426		-
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County	1528		636		2

Postal card Determinations were mailed to 176 candidates.

FALL PRIMARY ELECTION, - August 19th, 1952.

The following offices were nominated:

- Representative in Congress
- State Senator
- Member of Assembly
- Special County Judge
- County Treasurer
- Town officers were nominated in seven town.

The following party positions were elected:

- Eight Delegates and eight Alternate Delegates to the Fifth Judicial District of the Republican Convention
- Five Delegates and five Alternate Delegates to the Democratic State Convention
- Five Delegates and five Alternate Delegates to the Fifth Judicial District for the Democratic Convention

For the Fall Primary 98 petitions were filed in this office. All petitions were acknowledged by postal cards and consent received from each candidate to have name printed on the ballot.

The Fall Primary vote was as follows:

Watertown	526	169	Dem	3 Liberal
Towns	1147	254		-
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County	1673	423		3

Postal card Determinations were mailed to 60 candidates

12 Town Officers were nominated by Republican Party

7 Town Officers were nominated by party caucuses.

REGISTRATION

Five systems of registration were conducted by this office; Central, Personal, Nonpersonal, Veterans Bureau Hospitals and Registration of Members of the Armed Forces.

CENTRAL REGISTRATION.

From June 1st to September 26th, 966 city voters came to this office and centrally registered and enrolled. Approximately 250 of these voters applied for absentee ballots. Had the voters known their correct election district, much extra work by this office could have been avoided.

REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

This office received 559 registrations with applications for War Ballots from the Division for Servicemen's Voting. One hundred applications were rejected because of duplications or not voters of Jefferson County.

Before the 1952 registers were assigned to the proper districts, 4545 registrations were entered by this office.

Allocating war vote applications in the proper district was an arduous assignment. The addresses on the applications were insufficient, incorrect and indistinct. Assistance was solicited from all parts of the county. This work had to be completed with the greatest dispatch in order to have the ballots in the mail by September 20th, 1952. In order to aid the soldier, the War Ballot Commission and this office, in order to re-allocate the returned ballots and enrollment blanks, we entered the county, town, ward and election district, on each oath envelope and enrollment blank.

The 1952 Registration was as follows:

Watertown	15163	7287 Males	7876 Females
Towns	34078	17062	17016
County	49241	24349	24892

Postal card notices were mailed to 116 newly recommended inspectors of elections for the City of Watertown. Three instructions, two in the evening and one in the afternoon were given to the inspectors after which they were sworn in and certificates of appointment were issued.

GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 4th, 1952.

The following offices were elected:

- 45 Presidential Electors for four parties and three independent parties
- United States Senator
- 5 Justices of the Supreme Court, for the Fifth Judicial District
- Representative in Congress, Thirty-third Congressional District
- New York State Senator, Forty-second Senatorial District
- Member of Assembly, First assembly District
- Special County Judge
- County Treasurer
- 12 Town Officers in Eight Towns.

The following was the General Election vote:

Watertown	14796
Towns	25564

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County	40360
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Twenty-five custodians of voting machines were instructed and sworn in by this office.

The machine in the First Election District in the Town of Hounsfield jammed and could not be operated. It was necessary to use the county emergency machine. It was most fortunate that this machine was available and also because Watertown was not too far from Watertown. The necessity of having another emergency machine for the southern part of our county is very evident. The majority of the voting machines in the towns were purchased in 1937, and have not had service in 16 years. There is always the possibility of the failure of a machine to operate. This tremendous responsibility rests on the Board of Supervisors. This suggestion should be considered immediately.

Pursuant to Section 273-a of the Election Law, Commissioners Jerome and Gosier made a complete recanvass of the 95 voting machines in the county and found but few slight errors in tabulation, but no changes in the final result.

While the recanvass was in progress, Clerk Kate E. Grant, recanvassed 1335 absentee ballots; 549 military ballots and 786 regular absentee ballots.

The board expresses its gratitude to the sheriff's office for supplying an automobile and a deputy as the driver to take the commissioners to the 22 towns of the county.

The year 1952, went down in history as the busiest year the Board of Elections ever conducted.

For the record, the board wishes to incorporate in this report the following comparison:

1952	966	Central Registrations	49241	Registration	
1951	84	" "	42387	" "	
1952	40360	General Election Vote	1953	Enrollment	40727
1951	23383	" "	1952	" "	24130

This board wishes to acknowledge its sincere appreciation to the Board of Supervisors, Watertown Police Department, the Sheriff's office and to the many printers who furnished our intricate printing during the year.

Respectfully yours,

Manford H. Jerome, Republican Commissioner  
Elmer C. Gosier, Democratic Commissioner  
Kate E. Grant, Clerk of Board.